

# History



## Fact:

The **whipping post** was a large wooden post with shackles attached. Prisoners were tied to the post and then whipped on their bare backs with a birch stick or a whip. You can see the whipping post from the House of Correction in the church in Folkingham village.

Other prisoners here had to break rocks or endlessly tread the **treadmill**, the women were given work in the laundry, cleaning and knitting.

If you were seen to be lazy or naughty, the Governor would send you to the **whipping post** and they were allowed to give you up to 20 lashes – ouch!

My name is William and I was a prisoner here in 1827. My family was really poor and I'd was sent out to beg for food but I didn't have the badge which you needed to beg and so they locked me up in the big prison that used to be behind where you are staying.

Walking through this huge gatehouse to the prison buildings was really scary. I could feel my knees shaking. For the first month of your sentence, the 'beds' were just bare boards. After that you got a straw mattress. All we got to eat was **gruel** (say *gr-ool*) which was a very watery kind of porridge – yuk!

Every day we would go to the prison chapel for a service and then the hard work would start. My job was to 'pick oakum' which meant that I had to unpick the **fibres** (say *fy-bers*) of ropes. The fibres were then used to seal gaps between wooden planks on ships. Picking oakum was boring and really painful. My fingers were often bleeding by the end of the day.



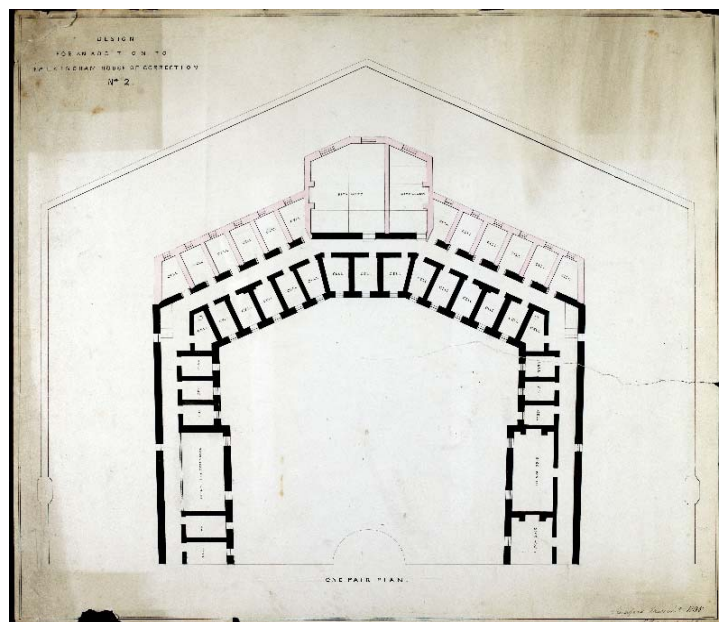
## Fact:

The **treadmill** wasn't like the ones you see in a gym these days, but a large wooden wheel attached to a mill to grind corn or pump water in the prison.



The gatehouse which you are staying in was built in 1825. Local **architect** (say 'ark-ee-lect') Bryan Browning was asked to design a much bigger gatehouse to replace the one which was here before. Apparently the small brick building that you used to walk through to get to the prison wasn't scary enough!

You can't actually see the gatehouse on this plan but it does show the way that the prison was laid out. Can you see the cells where we prisoners slept?



A plan of the House of Correction



Sarah Maille, Matron of the House of Correction for 32 years alongside her husband, Matthew, who was Governor.

Looks grumpy doesn't she?

The House of Correction was built on the site of an ancient **motte and bailey** castle which was abandoned in the 16<sup>th</sup> Century. It was a moated castle and the old moat came in handy when they built the new prison and its high walls – a double defence against escapees! It didn't stop everybody though, in 1826 three prisoners did make a break for it, but one was caught and got an extra eight years in prison!

The House of Correction was closed down in 1878. The prisoners who were left were handcuffed between two chains and taken on the train to Southwell prison.

### Fact:

A **motte and bailey** castle was a castle built on a mound of land ('motte' means clod of earth in French) with an area enclosed by castle walls.

# Unruly Rulers



## Who were the Georgians?

The **Georgians** were nobles from Germany. George I was King James I's great grandson. So when Queen Anne died with no heirs George became king. They are called **Georgians** because they are all called George (apart from William – but he wasn't meant to be king anyway!) Their surname was **Hanover** so this time is also called the **Hanoverian** (say 'han-o-ver-ee-an') period.



1714 **King George I**

A king from Germany who couldn't speak much English. He kept his wife in prison for 32 years - how mean!



**King George II** 1727

A boring king who only liked to fight battles. He died on the toilet of constipation, pooh!

1760 **King George III**

A popular king who went mad. He started talking to an oak tree in Windsor thinking it was Frederick the Great! Poor Georgie, he had to stop ruling as he was so mad.



George III's son George IV had to step in and rule as Prince Regent. This was called the **Regency Period**.



**King George IV** 1820

A bad king who ruined all his dad's hard work. He loved to drink, eat and party!

1830 **King William IV**

A simple king who wanted to be a sailor but was too stupid to command a ship. He would sometimes offer people a lift in his carriage!





## **Meet King George IV**

**– who ruled when the gateway to the House of Correction was built.**



### **Hi Georgie!**

#### **So when did you become king?**

I became King on 29 January 1820 when I was 57.

#### **What is your favourite thing to do?**

I love to gamble, especially cards. Sometimes it does get me into trouble, especially when I lose.

#### **What is the naughtiest thing you've ever done?**

I only married my wife Caroline so that I could pay off my debts. I didn't even let her come to my coronation!

#### **What are you most famous for?**

I ruled Britain as Prince Regent while my dad was too mad to rule. I named Regent Street in London after myself.



## What does the House of Correction look like?

Can you walk all the way around it?

Can you use any of these words to describe the building?  
Draw a circle around the ones that do.

Does the House of Correction look like other buildings in the area?

Castle

Tall

Pretty

Industrial

Stone

Brick

Symmetrical

Home

Square

Elegant

Friendly

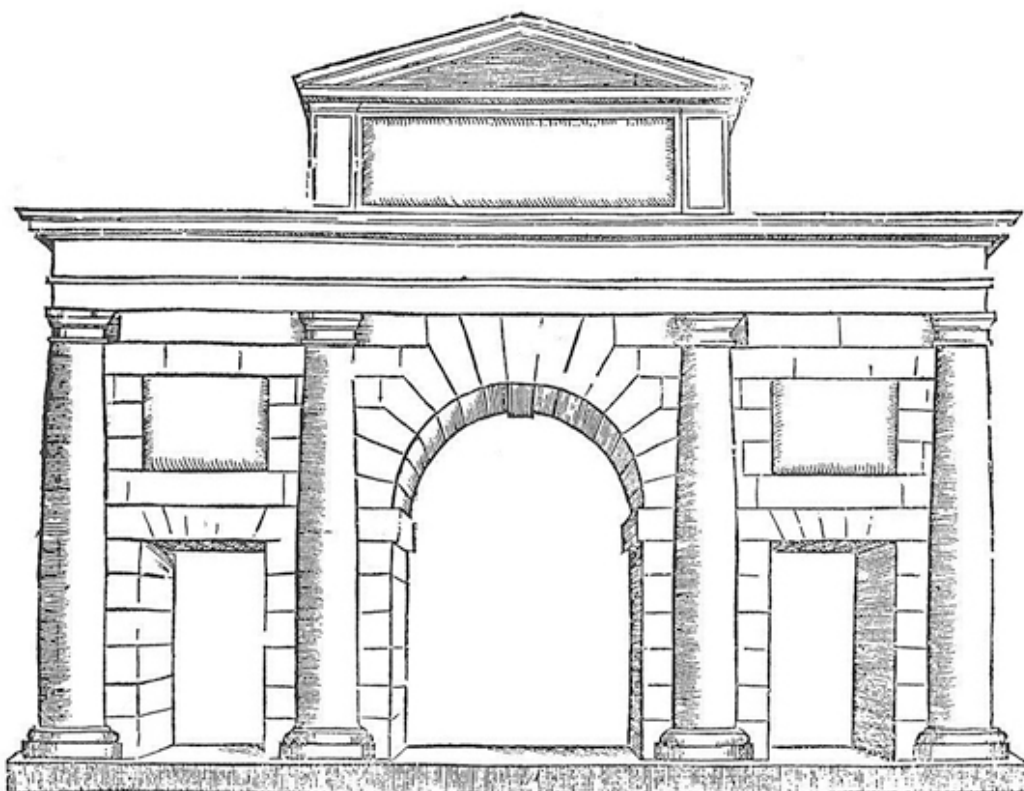
Low

Isn't the front of the House of Correction grand? It was built in 1825 by a local **architect** (say *ark-ee-lect*) called Bryan Browning. The design is based on ideas by **neo-classical** (say *'nee-oh-class-i-cal*) architects whose buildings were full of strength and drama. If you were an inmate walking through the gatehouse into the prison for the first time, would you be scared?

The drawing below is taken from a book called 'Serlio's fourth Book of Architecture'. Serlio was an Italian Classical architect in the 1400's. Compare it to the front of the House of Correction. Pretty similar, don't you think?

### Fact:

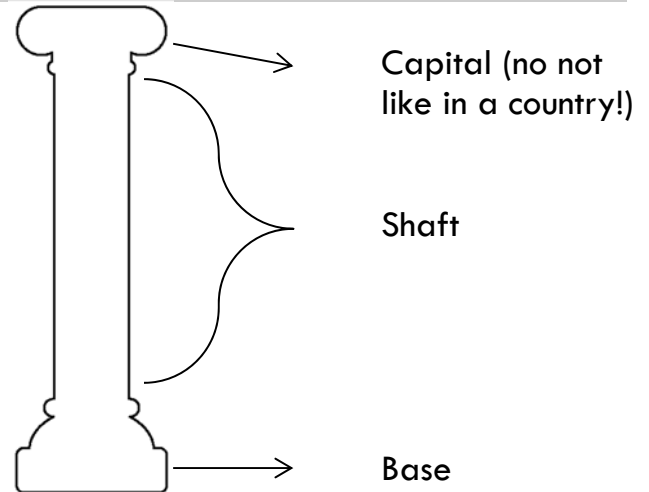
**Neo-classical architecture** is a style which revived the classic designs of Greek and Roman architecture. It can be recognised by its big columns, symmetry and **triangular pediments** (the pointed roof section above the door).





## Different types of columns.

Neo-classical design loved to use columns. Columns are a way of supporting the weight of a building. They come in all different shapes and sizes. There are 3 different parts to a column:



The ancient Greeks used 3 different types of capital in their buildings:

### Doric

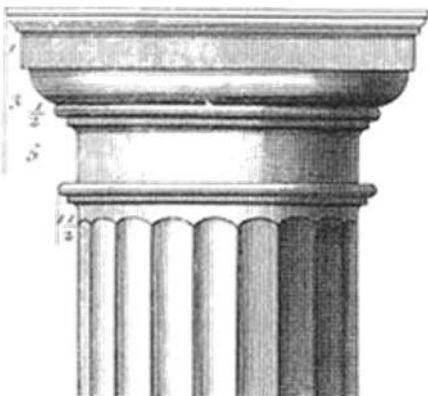
This is the oldest and simplest.

### Ionic

This looks like a scroll.

### Corinthian

Based on the leaves of a plant called 'acanthus' (say 'a-can-th-us')



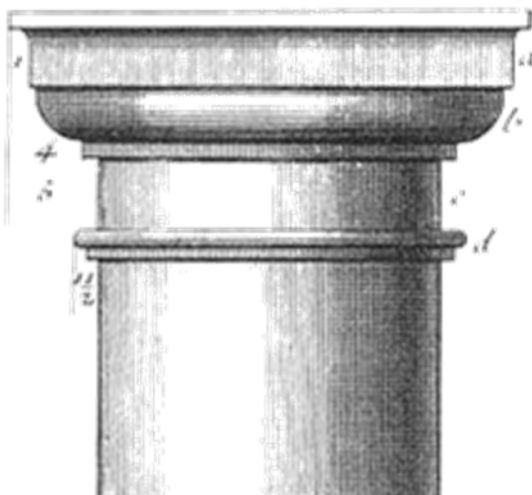
Then the Romans adapted them to have two more sorts of capitals:

### Tuscan

Is like the Doric column but more simple. Spot the differences!

### Composite

Is a mixture of Ionic and Corinthian.





**Draw the front of the House of Correction. Then compare your drawing with Serlio's on the front page of this section.**

Now write down three words to describe how prisoners felt walking through the gateway to start their sentence...

.....



## What is the House of Correction built from?

### Fact:

Some buildings were built from stone that was dug out of the ground when farmers ploughed the fields, other buildings were made from stone that was quarried and cut into neat shapes and sizes. There are still many stone quarries around the country today, where people get stone out of the ground.

Stone houses were once cheaper to build than brick ones. Once we could transport bricks up and down the country on the canals and railways, brick buildings become cheaper and more popular.

Stone is the solid foundation of the earth. It exists as huge mountains, rocks, stones or small pebbles washed smooth by water. There are lots of different types of stone, with different colours and textures. Some are better to build with than others.



In medieval and Tudor times, stone was still taken out of the ground by hand. Today, a quarry is a place where stone is blasted out of the ground with explosives! The one in the picture shows what quarries look like now.



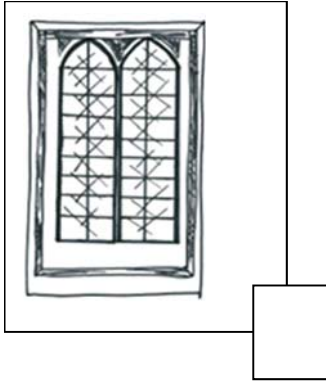
People who work with stone are called stonemasons. They build walls, carve the stone into shapes or add patterns to its surface. They use a mallet and special tools called chisels to shape the stone. The picture on the right shows a stonemason carving stone.



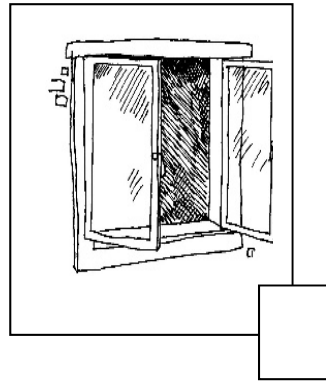




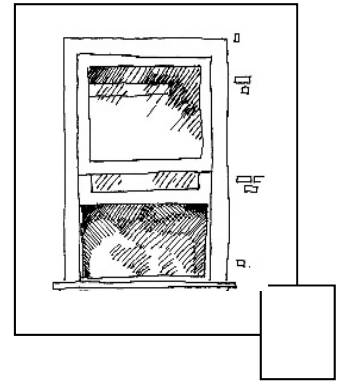
The size and shape of windows tells you a lot about the age and style of the building. What type of windows does the House of Correction have?



Fixed Picture



Casement

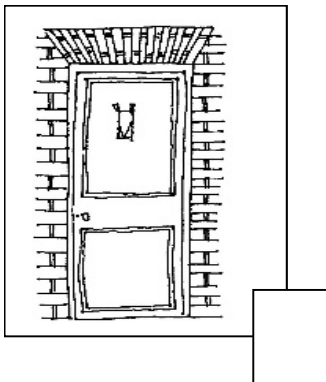


Sash

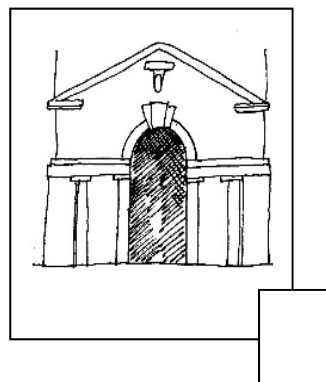
**Fact:**

Have you noticed that there are no windows at the front of the House of Correction? Do you think this was built into the design to make it clear to the prisoners that they wouldn't be seeing the outside world for some time?

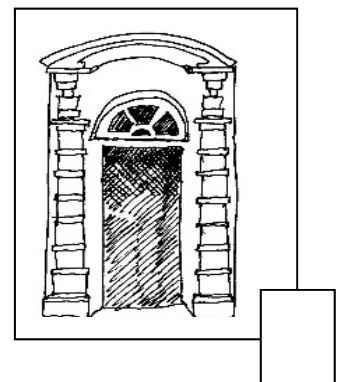
Entrances can be grand or simple. Which of these is most like the front door of the House of Correction?



Doorframe



Porch



Canopy

How does the front of the building look different to the back? What materials have been used on each side? Do you think there is a reason for the difference, if so why don't you write it down here.

---

---

---



# Quest



## Discover more about the House of Correction

The site on which the House of Correction is built has been used since the 11<sup>th</sup> Century – that's around 1,000 years – wow! Follow this Quest to discover more about the House of Correction.

### Can you find these?

Do you know what they are for?

.....  
.....



**Have you been to the church in Folkingham Village during your stay?** Did you see the whipping post and stocks used at the prison?



**Can you see the trapdoor in the kitchen? This used to lead down to the cellars.** Unfortunately you can no longer go down there but the photo to the right shows what they look like.

Look at the shape of the ceilings. The arch shape was the strongest way of holding up the floor above. They are called **vaulted** (say *valt-ed*) ceilings. What do you think these rooms were used for?

---

---

---

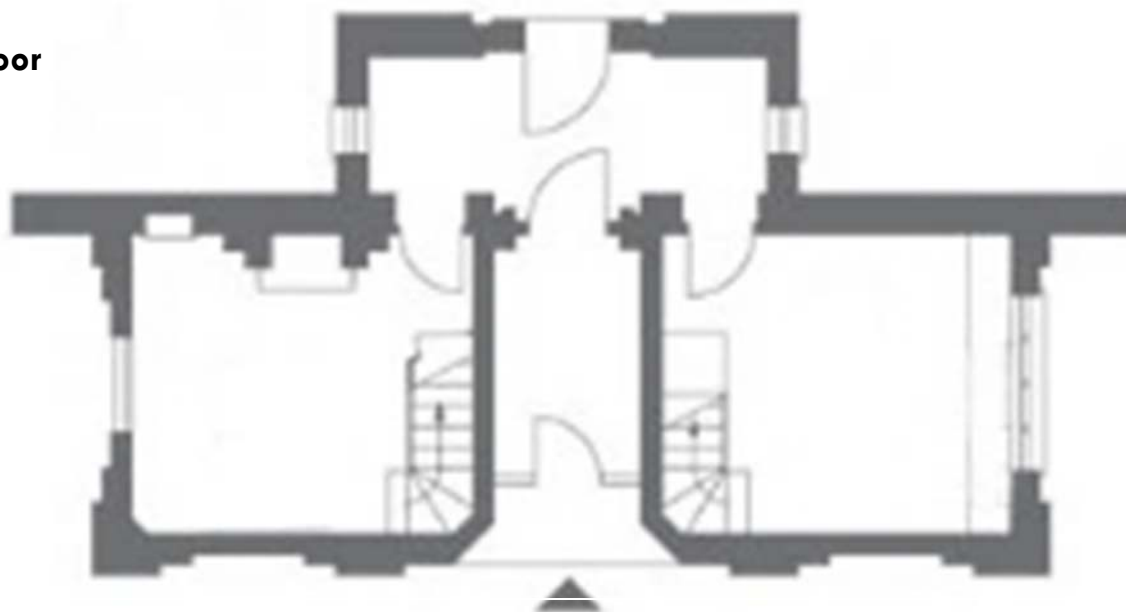




## Living in the House of Correction

The floorplan of a building is a map of the rooms. The plans below show you the shape of each room on the ground and first floors. Take a walk around and write on the plan what each room is used for.

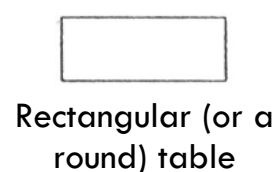
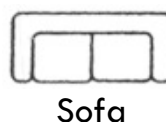
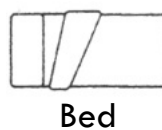
### Ground Floor



### First Floor



We use these symbols to show where beds, tables and bathrooms are. Draw the symbols on to the floorplans to show where the furniture is.





Can you find an example of each of these things inside the House of Correction. Describe, or draw the object when you find it.

Your favourite chair

The fireplace (is it an open fire or does it have a stove?)

Draw the pattern of a rug on the floor

Draw a picture of Governor Matthew Maille, the husband of Mrs. Maille. What do you imagine he looked like? Give him a big bunch of keys!

A large, empty rectangular box with a black border, intended for drawing or writing.





## House of Correction Word Search

Now have a go at the word search. Think about different parts of the building and what prison life would have been like. The words to find are at the bottom of the page.

W	H	I	P	P	I	N	G	P	O	S	T	F
O	A	B	B	E	Y	A	A	O	U	O	Y	I
J	T	R	M	A	T	R	O	N	O	W	O	R
S	H	E	R	I	S	E	L	U	S	A	A	E
E	S	C	A	P	E	R	M	M	S	R	K	P
N	T	A	I	C	A	S	E	N	T	D	U	L
T	U	R	N	K	E	Y	C	R	O	E	M	C
E	I	G	E	O	N	S	S	T	O	N	E	A
N	T	R	E	A	D	M	I	L	L	M	K	S
C	A	E	R	O	T	O	E	N	Y	A	S	T
E	N	E	O	C	L	A	S	S	I	C	A	L
R	K	S	A	E	E	T	O	M	E	S	P	E
A	M	O	O	L	Y	L	B	M	E	S	S	A
G	R	U	E	L	O	O	B	R	I	C	K	S

GAOL  
MATRON  
WARDEN  
CASTLE

BRICKS  
ESCAPE  
TURNKEY  
STONE

TREADMILL  
CELL  
GRUEL  
WHIPPINGPOST

MOAT  
SENTENCE  
CRIME  
OAKUM

How many of these words did you find? Put your score in the box.

--



## Can you answer these questions correctly?

1. What county is the House of Correction in?

Buckinghamshire

Monmouth

Lincolnshire

Somerset

2. What year was this gatehouse to the new House of Correction built?

1825

1808

1721

1774

3. What kind of castle used to be on this site?

Ringwork

Motte and bailey

Concentric

Bouncy

4. In 1820 King George III died. How many King Georges have there been since?  
(psst...look at Unruly Rulers!)

One

Three

Six

Ten

5. What is Oakum?

Strands of rope

Cheese

Tree

Perfume

6. The House of Correction was closed down in which year?

1825

1878

1990

1748

7. Which crime would you not have been sent to this House of Correction for?

Begging

Cyber Crime

Idleness

Petty theft

8. In what year did the old castle become a ruin?

1799

1802

1507

1635

9. Who designed the gatehouse in 1825?

Bryan Browning

David Bryce

Thomas Telford

Sebastiano Serlio

To find the answers turn over...



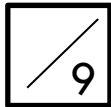


## Answer sheet:

### Question & Answer:

1. Lincolnshire
2. 1808
3. Motte and bailey
4. Three
5. Strands of rope
6. 1878
7. Cyber Crime
8. 1507
9. Bryan Browning

How many did you get right?



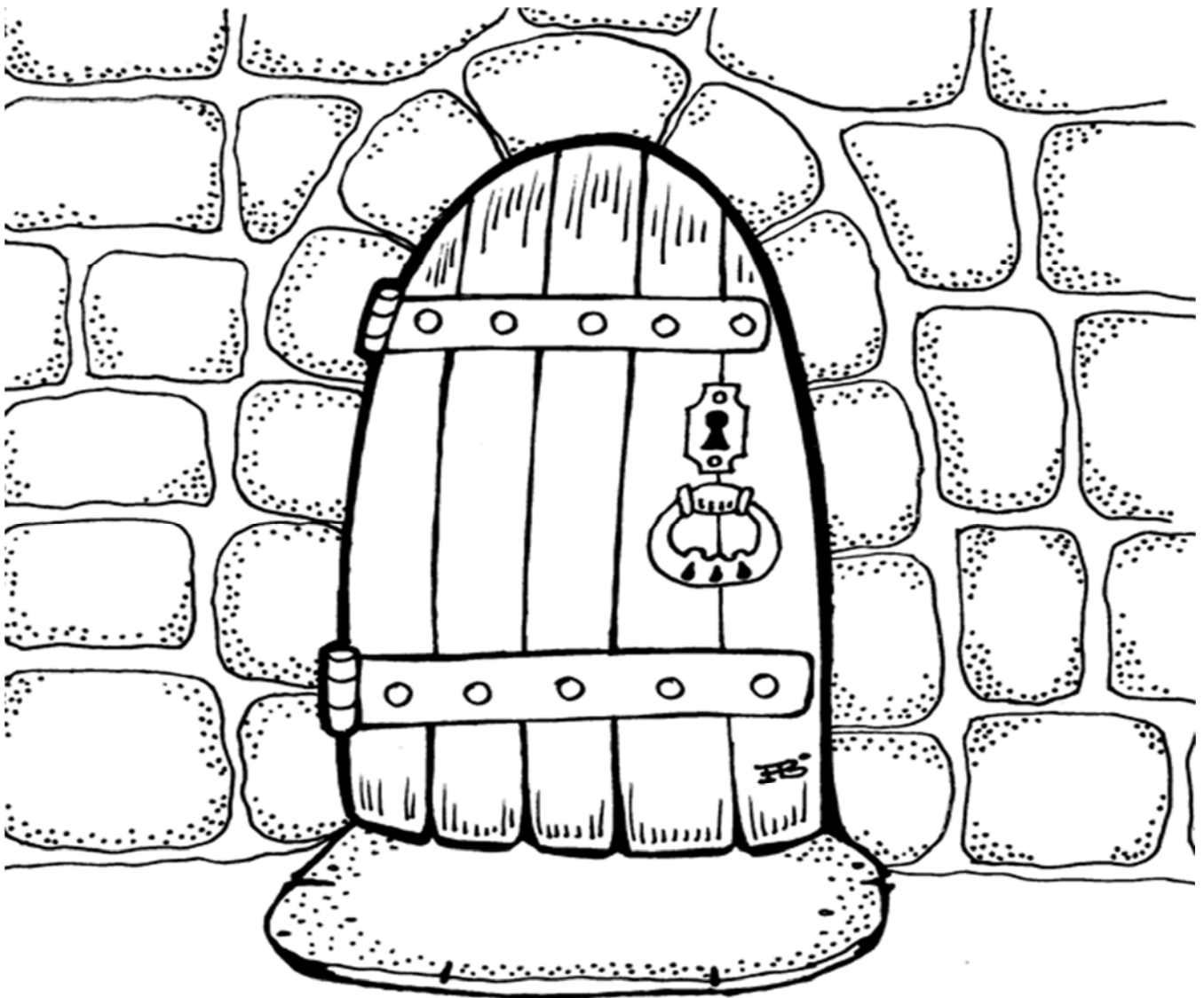
### Fact:

Did you know that it was the **Elizabethans** who created a system where the 'idle poor' (or lazy people!) were sent to prison and put to work to teach them better ways?

Imagine if your teacher could send you to prison for not doing your homework!

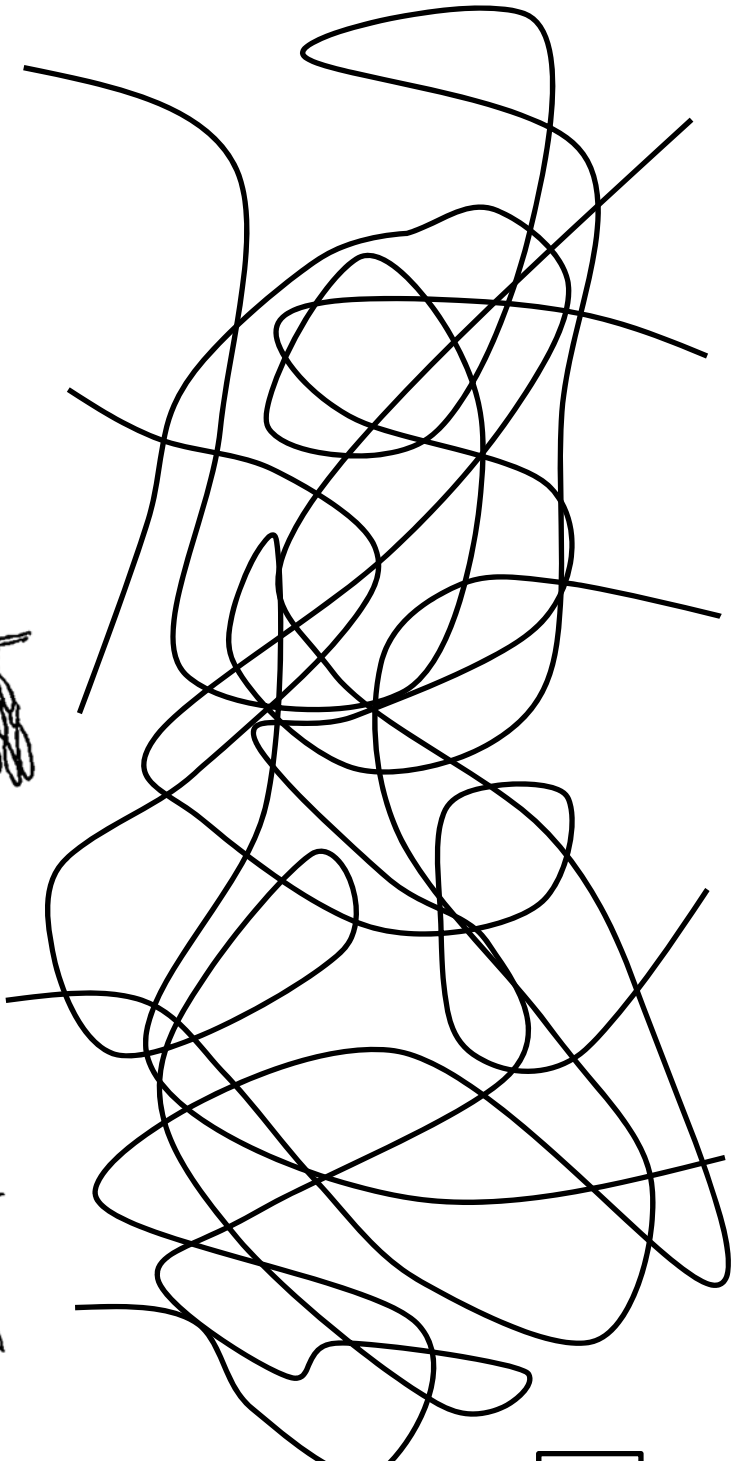
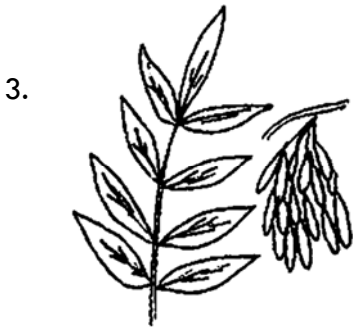
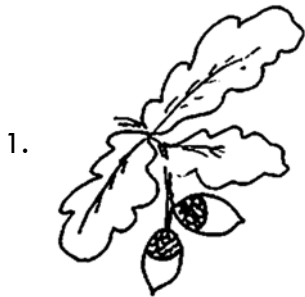
**Elizabethans** were people who were alive during the **reign** (say *rain*) of Queen Elizabeth I.

Colour in the prison door below.





**Which leaf belongs to which tree?**  
Match the leaf to the correct tree.



Horse Chestnut

Willow

Pine

Ash

Oak

**Did you match them correctly? Put your score in the box.**  
Look out for these when you go for a walk!



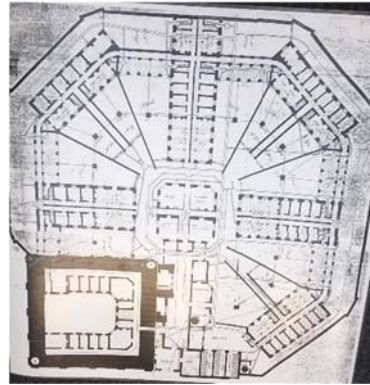


## Design your own prison

How many cells would you have? Would your prisoners have to share a cell? Would men and women be in the same prison? Think about the layout and design.

The house of Correction had a small yard for exercise, would you include one of these in your prison?

Is yours a modern day prison?



Norfolk Gaol – note the symmetry in the design



## Lincolnshire Plum loaf

There's no actual plum in the loaf, it just refers to the mixed fruit! Here's a simple recipe for you to try. You might need the help of an adult.

315g self raising flour  
150g caster sugar  
150g margarine  
150g mixed dried fruit

75g mixed peel  
1 large egg  
1 tsp mixed spice  
130-200ml milk

Preheat the oven to gas: 1, fan: 140°C

- Line a loaf tin with greaseproof paper
- In a large bowl combine the flour and margarine and rub together until it forms breadcrumbs. Add the fruit, mixed spice and sugar and mix well
- In a measuring jug, combine the egg and milk until it measures 200ml
- Add the milk mixture to the dry ingredients little by little until the batter is smooth
- Pour the batter into the loaf tin and bake in the centre of the oven for 3 and a half hours until the top feels firm.
- Insert a knife, if it comes out clean then it's baked
- Leave the loaf in the tin until it's fully cooled and then turn out onto a plate
- Enjoy with butter, cheese or just on its own. Mmmmm!



